

# F A Q

## “Questions about Salvation”

June 13, 2010

Matthew 20:1-16 (ESV)

### LG STUDY

#### QUICK REVIEW:

God has revealed himself to all the world so that all who believe in Him may be saved through the death of Jesus Christ.

#### MY STORY

1. Describe a time in your life when you thought that God was acting unfairly towards you? How did you respond to God? What was your ultimate conclusion—was God fair or not?
2. What questions of God's fairness have you wrestled with pertaining to salvation?

#### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Matthew 20:1-16.
  - a) What was the agreed upon wage for the first laborers (v. 2)? How much did they actually get paid (v. 10)? Did the master cheat them in any way? Was it fair?
  - b) About how many more hours did the first group of laborers work than the last group of laborers? What was the wage given to the last group of laborers? Explain why those hired first were upset. Would you be upset if you were hired first, yet got the same wage?
  - c) What is really the issue at hand – the fairness of God or the selfishness of man? Please explain.
  - d) Look closely at Jesus' response in vv. 13-15. Jesus' basic points are:
    - (1) I am not cheating anyone when I give exactly what a person deserves (v. 13);
    - (2) I am not cheating anyone when I give others more than what they deserve (v. 14-15a);
    - (3) You should be genuinely happy for anyone who is given more than what they deserve by God (v. 15a).

Do you ever begrudge God's generosity towards others?

2. Now, let's apply these principles to salvation.

- (1) I am not cheating anyone when I give exactly what a person deserves:
  - According to Romans 3:10-23, 6:23, what is the just wage for sin? What does every sinner (past, present, future) deserve? Would God be justified if he saved no one?
- (2) I am not cheating anyone when I give others more than what they deserve:
  - Instead of God choosing to give us what we deserve—i.e., eternal death—God chooses to give us what we don't deserve—i.e., eternal life. This is called “grace.” What thoughts come to your mind when you think of God's grace in this context?
- (3) You should be genuinely happy for anyone who is given more than what they deserve by God:
  - What implication does this truth have when you feel that God is being unfair because certain people you know aren't being saved?

#### BRINGING IT HOME

1. Do you really want God to be absolutely fair with you, giving you exactly what you deserve as a sinner? What would that mean for you if God did?
2. In a sense, God is unfair in that he let someone who was completely innocent (his Son) die for the completely guilty. But this was an act of love on the part of God. Take time to pray together, thanking God for his generosity towards you.
3. Please share your Life Journal or devotional.

\*\* LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at [www.ynccla.org](http://www.ynccla.org).

\*\* CDs of today's message as well as previous weeks' sermons are available in the YNCC office. Sermons are also viewable online at [www.ynccla.org/sermons](http://www.ynccla.org/sermons).

